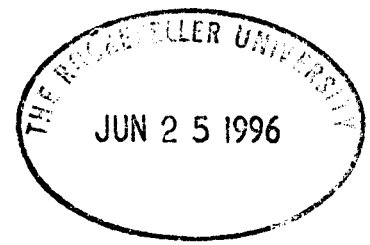


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DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY
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hanna@abacus.mc.duke.edu

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
NY, NY 10021

June 19, 1996

Dear Dr. Lederberg-

I am writing you because I am concerned about the use of pathogenic bacteria as weapons of terror and biowarfare. The more I learn and read about certain political situations around the world the more upset I get.

My laboratory studies the molecular pathogenesis of *Bacillus anthracis*, the causative agent of anthrax. It is a fascinating model for studying molecular interactions of the host-parasite relationship and the role of toxins in infectious diseases. This organism, unfortunately, is also often touted as a biowarfare "agent of choice". It is unforgivable that the model system of Pasteur, Koch and Metchnikoff is now being considered in such a way.

I would just like to take this opportunity to show my appreciation for you spearheading a scientific protest/warning of the dangers, and speaking out against biowarfare. Like you, I believe that biological and chemical attacks are our nation's greatest security risk. I would also like you to know that I am at your service in these matters. Please call on me if I can help you in your efforts. Or add me to your network of anthrax experts if I may aid in technical matters. I have been in contact with the Office of Naval Research (Dr. Eric Eisenstadt), USAMRIID (Col. Dr. Art Freidlander) and Dr. Matt Meselson (Harvard) on several issues concerning anthrax. I believe that they are quite familiar with our lab's work. Mine is a new group however, and does not always carry the prestige of J. Lederberg.

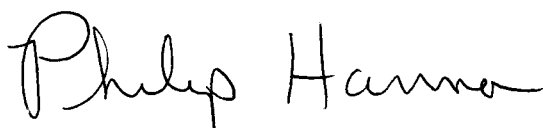
Furthermore, if you believe that a ANTHRAX GENOME PROJECT would be important to help combat the threat of anthrax, please send a letter supporting ONR sponsorship of such a venture to:

Dr. Eric Eisenstadt
Biological/Biomedical
Office of Naval Research
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217-5660

Feel free to use my name in this correspondence. You are probably already in contact with Eric Eisenstadt. If not, he would be someone who you may like to get to know. Eric approached me at a FASEB meeting last week, after I lectured, and said that the ONR *may* be interested in sponsoring a anthrax genome project. Needless to say I was thrilled, as the NIH (and the public in general) may not view anthrax as a priority for sequencing funds. This would be invaluable information to us working in this field. To proceed, what he asks is that interested scientists write letters describing the need for this, the feasibility of successful and timely completion, and the benefits anticipated from the knowledge of the entire chromosomal and two virulence plasmid sequences. These concepts are fairly easy to convey in a general sense. But if you'd like to hear some of our specific ideas for your letter, I'd be glad to discuss them with you.

Thank you again for being a leader. I'll enclose a recent *c.v.* and a couple of manuscripts so you can add me to your file of contacts.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Hanna". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

Philip Hanna, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Microbiology
Assistant Professor of Immunology

ps. I'll be attending your conference in Bethesda July 10-12. Perhaps we will meet then.

enclosures